(c) the action taken to strengthen security grid in the wake of such serious threats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIHARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Available intelligence inputs suggest the evil intentions of terrorists particularly affiliated with formidable outfits having a predominance of foreign mercenaries like Lashker-e-Toiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Harkat-ul-Jehadi Islami, Al Badr, to attack Vaishno Devi Shrine Katra and the yatris arriving there.

(c) State Government has informed that to counter such a terrorist threat, a number of measures have been taken for the security of the shrine/pilgrims at Vaishno Devi temple Katra which *inter-alia* include:—

Posting of separate Superintendent of Police to supervise the overall security arrangements at the Shrine.

Deployment of CRPF as well J & K Police including lady police for security of Katra/Vaishno Devi and the peripheries of the shrine.

Deployment of Road Opening-Party or ROP for the protection of yatris on the main road leading to Katra.

Regular sanitization of the area around the Shrine to check the terrorist's movement.

Installation of modem electronic gadgets for security checking.

Regular verification of character/antecedents in respect of the personnel employed by the Shrine Board and other workers engaged on Shrine route.

Use of IB and Raw in Public Relations Management

3464. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY : SHRI JIBON ROY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is using IB and RAW for public relations managenv nt and image building abroad in view of the recent cry over treatment of mino ities in the country;

(b) if so, the strategy that has been adopted by the Government to sell secular India abroad;

(c) whether the Ministry has identified anybody for this campaign; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) Publicizing various aspects of our unique composite culture and the concept of unity in diversity is an ongoing process and the Govt, of India has all along been taking appropriate measures in this regard. In order to put across the facts about the strong, secular and pluralistic foundation of India and drive home the fact that Indian society is pluralistic and tolerant and does not believe in proselytization, the Govt, has been making special efforts by involving Ministry of External Affairs, National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) and other agencies.

Atrocities against Dalits and Tribals

†3465. SHRI MOOL CHAND MEENA: SHRIMATISAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact mat incidents of atrocities against dalits and tribals have increased during last few years;

(b) the number of such incidents State-wise during last five years;

(c) the number of dalits and tribals killed in the each incident; and

(d) whether all guilty persons involved in these incidents have been arrested and punished; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and(b) A total of 27944,25638,25093,25455 and 25562 cases of crimes against members of Scheduled Castes were reported from all over India during 1997,1998,1999,2000 and 2001 and 4644,4276,4450,4190 and 4121 cases of crimes were reported against members of Scheduled Tribes from all over India during 1997,1998,1999,2000 and 2001 which shows the crime against SCs showed a marginal decrease while crime against STs showed a marginal decrease while Crime against S.Ts. showed a declining trend. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi